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## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria**

**AGENCY:** Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** As stipulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is hereby giving notice that a meeting is scheduled to be held for the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (the Advisory Council). The meeting will be open to the public; a public comment session will be held during the meeting. Pre-registration is required for members of the public who wish to attend the meeting and who wish to participate in the public comment session. Individuals who wish to attend the meeting and/or send in their public comment via email should send an email to [CARB@hhs.gov](mailto:CARB@hhs.gov). Registration information is available on the website <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb/> and must be completed by March 21, 2016; all in-person attendees must pre-register by this date. Additional information about registering for the meeting and providing public comment can be obtained at <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb/> on the Meetings page.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled to be held on March 30, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, and March 31, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET (times are tentative and subject to

change). The confirmed times and agenda items for the meeting will be posted on the website for the Advisory Council at <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb/> when this information becomes available. Pre-registration for attending the meeting in person is required to be completed no later than March 21, 2016; public attendance at the meeting is limited to the available space.

**ADDRESSES:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Great Hall, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201.

The meeting also can be accessed through a live webcast on the day of the meeting. For more information, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bruce Gellin, Designated Federal Officer, Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Room 715H, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201. Phone: (202) 260-6638; e-mail: [CARB@hhs.gov](mailto:CARB@hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under Executive Order 13676, dated September 18, 2014, authority was given to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (Advisory Council), in consultation with the Secretaries of Defense (DoD) and Agriculture (USDA). Activities of the Advisory Council are governed by the provisions of Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of federal advisory committees.

The Advisory Council will provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary of HHS regarding programs and policies intended to support and evaluate the implementation of

Executive Order 13676, including the National Strategy for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (Strategy) and the National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (Action Plan). The Advisory Council shall function solely for advisory purposes.

In carrying out its mission, the Advisory Council will provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary regarding programs and policies intended to preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics by optimizing their use; advance research to develop improved methods for combating antibiotic resistance and conducting antibiotic stewardship; strengthen surveillance of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections; prevent the transmission of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections; advance the development of rapid point-of-care and agricultural diagnostics; further research on new treatments for bacterial infections; develop alternatives to antibiotics for agricultural purposes; maximize the dissemination of up-to-date information on the appropriate and proper use of antibiotics to the general public and human and animal healthcare providers; and improve international coordination of efforts to combat antibiotic resistance.

The March public meeting will be dedicated to presentations by the five currently active working groups of the Advisory Council, which are: Antibiotic Stewardship; One Health Surveillance; Diagnostic Innovations; Treatment, Prevention and Control Research and Development; and International Collaboration on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (CARB). The Advisory Council will deliberate and vote on the working groups' findings and recommendations. In addition, the Advisory Council will be presented with a new task(s) from the Secretary of HHS, in consultation with USDA and DoD. The meeting agenda will be posted on the Advisory

Council website at <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb> when it has been finalized.

Public attendance at the meeting is limited to the available space. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Advisory Council at the address/telephone number listed above at least one week prior to the meeting. For those unable to attend in person, a live webcast will be available. More information on registration and accessing the webcast can be found at <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/carb/>.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comments prior to the Advisory Council meeting by emailing [CARB@hhs.gov](mailto:CARB@hhs.gov). Public comments should be sent in by midnight March 21, 2016, and should be limited to no more than one page. All public comments received prior to March 21, 2016, will be provided to Advisory Council members and read during the public comment period designated on the agenda; comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

Dated: February 25, 2016.

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Bruce Gellin, MD, MPH

Designated Federal Officer

Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health

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